



Partners

Puget Sound Action Team
Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement
Great Peninsula Conservancy
WSU Extension
WA Sea Grant Program
WA State Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
U S Fish and Wildlife Service
Mason County Health
Mason County Assessor
North Mason Chamber of Commerce
Port of Dewatto

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Program Funding

The education and outreach component receives its funding from HCCC's Salmon Recovery Plan and implementation funded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. Past funding was from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Puget Sound Action Team.

Restoration projects are being addressed through multiple grant sources, including Salmon Recovery Funding Board, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation , WA State Fish and Wildlife, and others.

The Hood Canal

Community Nearshore Restoration Program



The Hood Canal Coordinating Council's Community Nearshore Restoration Program (CNRP) is a combined education and outreach program and a restoration program for marine waterfront (shoreline) property owners and land managers.

It provides education information about marine nearshore processes and ecosystem functions in marine "edge" habitats, and how anthropogenic disturbances impact those processes and functions.



The Program

In 2003, the Community Nearshore Restoration Program was conducted in the Northshore area of Hood Canal and in 2004 in the Tahuya/Dewatto area of Mason County. Currently, the CNRP is being implemented along the southshore of Hood Canal.

To initiate the program, key property owners act as advisory to developing the program and play a key role in promoting the program in their community and the next program area.

A “kick off” program is developed where nearshore processes, water quality, sea level rise and other topics are presented. The workshop participants get a chance to meet with their shoreline community members at lunch and discuss shoreline issues. Beach events are encouraged to help identify nearshore projects.



The beach event hosts are assisted in inviting their shoreline neighbors to the event on their beach and an agenda is formed with specific specialists invited to address concerns, discuss stewardship practices and identify potential restoration or preservation projects through landowner discussions.

A project list is developed and assistance is given through the funding process. Restoration projects are implemented by the Marine Riparian Initiative (MRI).

The MRI is a program that will assist shoreline landowners with native plant vegetation for erosion controls and salmon habitat enhancements. Native plants are available as well as technical assistance to complete a planting plan and maintain plants over a longer term



Results

The results are a new group of informed shoreline property owners and stakeholders about nearshore processes. That will lead them to more ecologically friendly methods of developing and managing their land.



It will provide detailed information to the regional nearshore study. It will provide the HCCC with more opportunities to work with nearshore property owners on developing and submitting project applications for funding restoration and protection projects.

And it will help the HCCC recruit local land owners to help us work with other communities and groups around the Hood Canal and Eastern Straits in similar education and restoration efforts.